DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 099 009 JC 740 449

TITLE	Report of the Joint Study Committee on Student Governance.
INSTITUTION	El Camino Coll., Torrance, Calif.
PUB DATE	May 74
NOTE	62p.
EDRS PRICE	MF-$0.75 HC-$3.15 PLUS POSTAGE
DESCRIPTORS	*Administrator Attitudes; College Students; *Community Colleges; Governance; Post Secondary Education; Questionnaires; *Student Attitudes; *Student Government; *Student Participation; Surveys; Technical Reports
IDENTIFIERS	California; *El Camino College

ABSTRACT

Student governance at El Camino College was studied by means of a review of data related to student characteristics, open hearing with students, a student survey, meetings with members of Student Councils and club representatives, and meetings with the administration and members of the Board of Trustees. These activities showed that there was an increase in the number of students who are older and are attending part-time in the evenings; most students favored some form of student government, but demands of college studies and employment precluded their own involvement; most of the student respondents to the survey indicated that they were unaware of the present student government and its activities, but showed interest and had definite opinions about the structure and function of student government; members of the Student Council valued the experience, but agreed that other forms of student government might facilitate increased involvement and effectiveness; club representatives saw a vital role for student government, but wanted fiscal and functional independence from student government; and both administrators and members of the Board of Trustees were vitally interested in the topic of student government and eager to cooperate with a representative and responsible student government. The study findings led to the conclusion that the form of student government at El Camino College should provide for maximum student input at all levels, agree with the philosophy of the college, and parallel as far as possible the organizational structure of the college. (The Student Government Survey and Analysis is one of the 10 appendixes to the report.) (DB)

JOINT STUDY COMMITTEE ON STUDENT GOVERNANCE

MEMBERSHIP

Students

Mr. Jay Garner, Committee Chairman
A. S. President, Fall, 1973

Mr. Michael Cummings
A. S. President, Spring, 1974

Mr. James Barbieri
Commissioner of Academic Affairs

Mr. Jeff Ross
ECC Student

Ms. Lois Stirrat
Commissioner of Elections

Mr. Richard Ruiz
Sophomore Class President

Mr. Leigh Bloom
Commissioner of Assemblies

Mr. Thomas Peck
Commissioner of Academic Affairs

Faculty

Mr. Serge Freeman
President, Academic Senate, 1973

Mr. Tom Hodges
President, Academic Senate, 1974

Dr. Charles Sohner
Professor, Political Science

Administration

Dr. Virginia Pfiffner
Dean of Behavioral Sciences

Mrs. Martha Pate
Dean of Women

Dr. Henry P. Kirk
Dean of Men

Resource Persons

Mr. Merl Sloan
Vice President - Student Personnel

Mrs. Connie McCord
Coordinator, Student Activities

Mr. Nate Jackson
Coordinator, Special Services

Dr. Jerry Garlock
Coordinator, Research

Mrs. Jean Farmer
Secretary

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

Mr. Robert L. Moody, Chairman, and
members of the Board of Trustees
Dr. Stuart E. Marsee, President, and
members of the College staff
Mr. Tom Hodges, President, and
members of the Academic Senate
Mr. Michael Cummings, President, and
members of the Associated Students

Ladies and Gentlemen:

A select committee of students, faculty members, and administrators have spent almost two full semesters studying the subject of student governance at El Camino College.

The committee transmits herewith its findings and recommendations related to this vital subject of student and campus-wide concern. We hope that the report will be widely disseminated, thoroughly discussed, and fully implemented.

Sincerely,

Jay Garner, Chairman
Study Committee

Michael Cummings
A. S. President
Spring, 1974

JG/MC:jf

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Preface		i
I.	Student Governance in Transition	1
II.	Committee Procedure	5
III.	Purposes and Objectives of Student Governance	8
IV.	Structure of Student Government	10
	A. Present Organization	10
	B. Criticism of Present Organization	10
	C. Criteria for New Student Government	11
V.	Recommendations of the Joint Study Committee	13
	A. Student Governance	13
	B. Clubs and Student Organizations	15
	C. Activities and Services Program	15
	D. Student Affairs Advisory Committee	15
	E. Finances	16
VI.	Conclusion	19

APPENDICES

A. Student Government Survey and Analysis 21

B. Articles and Editorials from Campus and Community Newspapers 30

C. Chart of Present Form of Student Government 41

D. Chart of Proposed Division Councils and Senate 42

E. Proposed Associated Students Constitution as Amended and Approved by the Associated Students 43

F. Inter-Club Council Constitution 53

G. Student Affairs Advisory Committee - Purpose and Composition 54

H. Structure of El Camino College Student Activities, Programs, Services, and Governance 55

I. Proposed Funding Through Auxiliary Services Budget 56

J. References 57

PREFACE

The Joint Study Committee on Student Governance was formed at the request of Mr. Jay Garner, President of the Associated Students during the fall semester, 1973-74. In a message to all members of the Associated Students, Mr. Garner requested that the President of the College and the President of the Academic Senate join him in appointing a special ad hoc committee composed of students, faculty, and administrators to study and make recommendations about student governance at El Camino College.

The Committee agreed that its procedure would be to study student governance at El Camino College, gather ideas and suggestions from all interested members of our campus community, investigate alternative forms of student governance, and compile a report which would include its findings and recommendations.

The primary focus of the Committee has been upon student government, per se, with the parameters of its inquiry and recommendations extending to include the involvement of students in many aspects of campus life.

The Committee wishes to express its thanks to hundreds of ECC students, members of the Board of Trustees, Faculty, and Administration who shared their concerns and suggestions with us.

I. STUDENT GOVERNANCE IN TRANSITION

Student participation in college or university governance is neither a novelty nor a new concept. Elements of "student government" can be traced back to the Middle Ages in Europe, while in the United States the concept has been evident in higher education since the late 1700's. Student government flourished in the first half of this present century, when it was seen as a vehicle to permit students to have a voice in their own affairs, as a laboratory for learning democratic processes, and as a training ground for leadership.[5]

Since the late 1960's, traditional forms of college student government have received criticism from all factions of the campus community. Most vocal of these groups have been students, who complained that student government had become irresponsible, ineffective, unrepresentative, and vulnerable to manipulation by special interest groups.

From a 1970 survey of California Community Colleges, it was found that at a majority of colleges less than twenty percent of the student body bothered to vote in student elections. Further, at some campuses, candidates ran unopposed for offices, and many were appointed due to lack of interest. Major problems seemed to be related to at-large elections characterized by lack of identification of candidates by the electorate and lack of accountability and fixed responsibilities between the candidate and the electorate after the election.[2]

Student government has been seen as a road block to real student

participation in institutional governance on many college campuses.

Ralph C. Richardson, Jr., President of Northampton Area Community College, states:

> "A...barrier to meaningful involvement is the current reliance upon representative student governments which are neither representative nor governments and which have been completely disavowed by most of the student body who do not even bother to vote in the elections. The report of the Study Commission on University Governance of the University of California at Berkeley is a shocking indictment of student governments, but similar statements of lack of effectiveness have been appearing with increasing frequency during the past ten years. The truth of the matter is that many student governments have no real authority, are not integrated with the mechanisms for institutional governance, and are not respected by the student bodies." [8]

A similar view about student government at the community college level was expressed by Alice Thurston, President of Garland Junior College:

> "On many campuses, some students are still willing to play the student government game, without real responsibility or purpose. The other students step over them to go to class or work." [8]

After months of research and investigation on student government in California Community Colleges, Henning recommended:

> "The present conception of student government on California community college campuses should be abandoned so that fresh possibilities for clarifying the role of students in college governance can be offered. It is necessary to dissolve the existing organizations to reasses the functions that the student associations have been expected to perform and to begin de novo to build the structures required to permit students to become fully committed members of the academic community." [4]

In recent years the literature of higher education reports that students at an increasing number of colleges and universities are attempting to replace older concepts of student government with more effective means of becoming productively involved in their own affairs and in the life of the campus. [7]

At El Camino College, a traditional form of student government has been in existence since the founding of the College over twenty-seven years ago. The Student Council form of government with at-large elections has remained essentially unchanged, except for the periodic addition or deletion of several commissionerships.

Student government has enjoyed a long and rich history at El Camino College. During the early years of the college, the Associated Students made many contributions to the quality of student life through active student participation in the mechanisms of student government. However, student participation in student government in recent years has dwindled, both in terms of the number of students becoming candidates for A. S. elective office and/or those voting in A. S. elections. Fewer and fewer ECC students choose to purchase the A. S. membership card and thereby become active members of the Associated Students. For example, during the spring semester, 1974, eighteen percent (18%) purchased the A. S. card, whereas several years ago over ninety-five percent (95%) did so. Decreasing A. S. membership has resulted in reduced A. S. revenues, to the extent that two years ago the Association was no longer able to fund many of its programs and had to request the District to assume their financial support.

Students in student government report that they feel frustrated, discouraged, and powerless, while many students outside student government choose to ignore or avoid it. Most faculty, while interested in students and their concerns, are unrelated and uninvolved in the student government itself. Administrators, somewhat like those students in student government, often feel frustrated and disappointed with both the student government process and its products.

Since the present form of government did not seem to be meeting the expectations of most segments of the campus population, the Joint Committee was appointed to study and make recommendations related to student governance at El Camino College.

II. COMMITTEE PROCEDURE

The first meeting of the Joint Study Committee on Student Governance was held on November 6, 1973. At that meeting it was agreed that the Committee would study and make recommendations about student governance at El Camino College.

The Committee began its work by reviewing the history of student government at El Camino College as recorded in the minutes of Student Council meetings, College yearbooks, and other publications. Mr. Merl Sloan and Dr. H. M. Maddaford, former Deans of Men, were most helpful to the Committee in sharing their experience with student government since the inception of the College. It was evident that student involvement in the traditional form of student government had been relatively substantial in the past, but that changes had occurred with respect to the College and also its students. It was concluded that the pattern of government devised for students of the 1950's may not be appropriate for students of the 1970's and beyond.

To provide information about El Camino's present student body, Dr. Jerry Garlock was invited to provide research data related to the characteristics of the current student population. Enrollment comparison reports, major subject intents, analysis of graduates, and other data were reviewed. It was noted that there was an increase in the number of students who are older and attending part time and in the evening.

In order to obtain input directly from El Camino students, the Committee scheduled a series of "Open Hearings" at various hours over a three-day period. These hearings were publicized with posters, letter

to the Editor and classified advertisement in the College newspaper, and announcements at meetings of Student Council and Inter-Club Council. The ideas, reactions, and suggestions of many El Camino students were solicited during these sessions. The Committee found that most students favored some form of student government, but that the demands of college studies and employment precluded their own personal involvement.

In addition to the open hearings described above, a survey was administered to El Camino College students selected at random, which asked for student ideas about student governance. Most of the respondents indicated that they were unaware of the present student government and its activities. However, the respondents demonstrated considerable interest in student government and had very definite opinions about the structure and function of student government. For a complete analysis of the student government survey see Appendix A.

Meetings were scheduled between members of the Joint Study Committee and members of fall, 1973, and spring, 1974, Student Councils and also with club representatives who make up Inter-Club Council. Members of Student Council indicated that they valued the experience that they were receiving from their service in student government but agreed that other forms of student government might facilitate increased involvement and effectiveness. Inter-Club Council representatives perceived a vital role for student government on campus but expressed a desire for Inter-Club Council's fiscal and functional independence from student government.

To gain insight into the perception of student government held by the Administration and Members of the Board of Trustees, joint meetings were scheduled between the Study Committee, the President's Cabinet, and also with the Board of Trustees. The Committee found that both Administrators

and Members of the Board were vitally interested in the topic of student governance and were eager to cooperate with student government which was representative and responsible. In addition, members of the committee made regular reports to the Academic Senate, Instructional departments, and other groups, and the activities of the Joint Committee were reported in the College newspaper. See Appendix B.

Several alternative forms of student government were considered, ranging from complex bicameral unions to somewhat unstructured student "town meetings." Constitutions from other community colleges were gathered and analyzed. Models of governance were considered from other aspects of government, both national and foreign. It was decided that the form of student governance recommended for the Associated Students of El Camino College should provide for maximum student input at all levels, agree with the philosophy of the Institution, and parallel inasmuch as possible the organizational structure of El Camino College.

Finally, the purposes and objectives of student government were conceptualized; criteria for student government were identified; and recommendations were made concerning student government, clubs and organizations, and the coordination of the program of student activities and services.

III. PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES OF STUDENT GOVERNANCE

In its inquiry into the area of student governance at El Camino College, the Committee has used the philosophy of this institution as a foundation from which this process begins. The philosophy statement is stated in the Catalog:

> "El Camino College recognizes the individual man, under God, as the highest value of the world and universe. The College believes that the human personality has many facets and that individuals have many different needs. While no educational institution can be all things to all men, the College strives to create an environment which will awaken latent capacities and challenge recognized ones to broader fulfillment.
>
> Committed to the framework of a democratic society, El Camino College attempts to: (1) promote educational experiences leading to the realization of personal goals; (2) develop a sense of responsibility to oneself and to others; (3) serve the community by offering a flexible curriculum to meet the educational and cultural needs of the area; and (4) point the way to an understanding of the past, and identity with the present, and competence to meet the future."[3]

The Committee believes that the objectives of El Camino College can be, in some measure, realized through student participation in the processes of student governance.

The application of the philosophy of El Camino College to the area of student governance suggests the following:

1. That student governance would represent, provide for, and be supportive of a wide range of student experiences and interests.
2. That student governance would strive to provide programs which would stimulate latent capacities and challenge recognized ones to broader fulfillment.
3. That student governance would promote experiences which lead to realization of personal goals.

4. That participation in all phases of student governance would develop a sense of responsibility to oneself and others.
5. That student governance would serve the student community by offering a flexible program to meet the social and cultural needs of the students.
6. That participants in student governance would come to experience an understanding of their past, an identity with the present, and competence to meet the future.

ASSUMPTIONS

Members of the Joint Study Committee on Student Governance agree with the following assumptions. That:

1. Student Governance is desirable and should be encouraged and supported by El Camino College.
2. Student involvement on a college campus is a valuable resource for the students and the institution.
3. Students involved in student governance gain valuable experiences in processes, procedures, and methods which provide background training for leadership.
4. The greater community can profit from these experiences by current and former students assuming responsible roles in society as educated, cultured, and experienced persons able to serve.

IV. STRUCTURE OF STUDENT GOVERNMENT

A. Present Organization

As was previously noted, the traditional student council form of government has been in effect at El Camino College for approximately twenty-seven years. Voting members of Student Council include a President, Vice President, Commissioner of Activities, Commissioner of Finance, and three Students at Large (at least one must be male and one female). Executive officers who vote at joint sessions with Student Council include Commissioners of Academic Affairs, Assemblies, Campus Sports, Communications, Elections, Fine Arts, Health, Education & Welfare, Public Relations, Student Services, and Freshman and Sophomore Class Presidents. Any student who is qualified according to the A. S. Constitution may become a candidate for the above offices, and all offices are voted upon by students on an "at-large basis." All registered students are members of the Associated Students, but those who have purchased a current A. S. Membership Card are deemed "active" members. See Appendix C.

B. Criticism of Present Organization

The Committee heard criticism of the present form of student government from students, faculty, and administration. These criticisms seemed to relate to the following areas:

1. Lack of Accountability

   Student officers are not accountable to any particular segment of the campus student population. Candidates run and are elected at large, without any defined constituency.

2. Alienation from Mainstream of Campus Life

   Student government is seen as an isolated "sandbox" operation

which operates "over there," somewhat removed from the rest of the College.

3. Low Acceptance of Responsibility

Student government leaders, especially in the late 60's and early 70's, departed from activities for the general student welfare to promote the special interests of the few.

4. Vague Goals and Objectives

Student government leaders individually and collectively have not developed a clear understanding of their goals and objectives related to their service in student government.

5. Low Involvement Level of Students in Governance

This is shown by decreasing paid membership in the Associated Students, lack of candidates to run for office, and insignificant student turnout at the polls.

6. Lack of Power and Authority

Students perceive that their government is powerless and thus ineffective. Students maintain that they will become seriously involved in student government when that government is given more responsibility and authority over the issues that affect students.

C. Criteria for New Student Government

Any form of student governance designed for the students of El Camino College should meet the following criteria:

1. Accountability

Students should know their officials and be able to hold them responsible for their performance. Student officers should be able to identify and respond to their specific constituency.

2. Democracy

Officials should be chosen by, representative of, and responsive to the wishes of a majority of the students.

3. Effectiveness

Officials should be given enough authority to fulfill the legitimate desires of the students and be competent enough to use that authority efficiently.

4. Decentralization

Maximum participation in student government should be afforded by election of some officials from relatively small constituencies to perform student government services for each segment of the college community.

5. Integration in All-College Government

Student officials should be involved in faculty and administrative policy-making processes.

6. Educational Value

Student government involvement should impart important knowledge and provide valuable experience in the cooperative and responsible exercise of decision-making responsibility.

7. Conformity with Expressed Student Preferences

The form of student government should reflect wishes of the students as expressed to the Committee.

8. Relevance to the Broader Political System

The constitution should establish a student government similar enough to national, state, or local governments to make experience with it of some use in off-campus political life.

9. Participation

All students, by virtue of their enrollment at El Camino College, should be represented by and have access to student government.

V. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE JOINT STUDY COMMITTEE

The Joint Study Committee recommends to the following:

A. Student Governance

1. Recommendation to the Associated Students

That the Associated Students of El Camino College adopt and participate in a form of student government that shall reflect the organizational structure of the college. Since the instructional program of the college is administered through divisions into which all academic departments are grouped, members of the El Camino College student body shall be represented both in decentralized councils grouped according to academic majors and in a centralized senate representative of the entire student body. See chart, Appendix D. Therefore, the government of the El Camino College student body shall be comprised of:

a. Division Councils, the number to correspond to the number of instructional divisions within the college. Each division council to have a minimum of five (5) and a maximum number of fifteen (15) members.

b. A Student Senate comprised of two (2) representatives from each Division Council.

c. Commissioners and other appointees chosen by the Division Councils and the El Camino Senate. (See Appendix E)

The Joint Study Committee encourages El Camino College students to take an active and responsible part in student governance and in all aspects of the campus community.

2. Recommendation to the El Camino College Faculty.

   a. That the El Camino College faculty cooperate to the fullest extent possible with student government, and recognize the Associated Students as significant and participating members of the El Camino College campus community.

   b. That Divisional representatives to the ECC Faculty Senate agree to serve in an advisory capacity to the Division Student Councils.

   c. That the El Camino College Academic Senate extend to the ECC Student Senate an invitation to participate in meetings of the Academic Council by sending a regular student representative to be present at each meeting of the Senate.

   d. That the agenda of each Academic Council meeting make provision for a report from the Associated Students.

3. Recommendation to the Administration of El Camino College.

   a. That the Administration cooperate to the fullest extent possible with the new form of student government.

   b. That the trend be continued to include student members as full participating members on appropriate all-college committees.

   c. That the support necessary to effect the new student government be provided by the College Administration.

4. Recommendation to the Board of Trustees.

   a. That the Board of Trustees continue their encouragement and support of student government at El Camino College.

   b. That the Board insure provision for adequate financing of student government.

c. That the Board include as a regular agenda item at its meeting a report from the Associated Students.

B. Clubs and Organizations

1. Recommendations Concerning ECC Clubs and Organizations.

a. That ECC clubs and organizations assume a greater role in social activities and programs on campus.

b. That ECC clubs, organizations, and Inter-Club Council function independently of student government, while keeping open lines of communication and a spirit of cooperation between these groups.

c. That ECC clubs, organizations, and Inter-Club Council operate from a budget maintained separately from that of student government.

d. That Inter-Club Council select its own chairperson, rather than being chaired by the Commissioner of Activities.

e. That the Inter-Club Council Constitution be modified according to the recommendations cited above. See Appendix F.

C. Activities and Services Program

It is recommended that the Student Activities Office identify programs, activities, and services for the benefit of ECC students and implement them with professional staff. Too often in the past, worthwhile programs have experienced limited success due to reliance on volunteer student assistance and funding through student government. Student Activities staff, however, should be responsive to student input and should include students in advisory capacity in all activities, programs, and services.

I. Student Affairs Advisory Committee

It is recommended that:

1. An advisory committee be appointed to provide general direction to the general area of student affairs, including student government, clubs and organizations, and the Student Activities Office. Membership of the advisory committee shall include students, faculty, and administration. (See Appendix G)
2. The initial assignment of the Student Affairs Advisory Committee shall be to:
   a. Provide support and assistance in the implementation of the proposed structure of student government and recommendation to Inter-Club Council and the Student Activities Office.
   b. Formulate a new Board Policy which identifies clearly the relationship between the District and the Associated Students. The Student Affairs Advisory Committee should be responsible for making recommendations concerning the content of such a policy, in consultation with students, the College Administration, and Faculty. (See Appendix H)

E. Finances

After first conceptualizing the form of student governance appropriate for the Associated Students of El Camino College, the Joint Study Committee turned to the critical area of finance. For, without a stable base of financial support, it would be literally impossible to operate any system of student governance, programs, activities, and services. (See Appendix G)

Several alternate methods of financing were considered:

1. District Funding.

   It is believed that the involvement of students in student governance, including responsible student participation in college affairs, is desirable from an educational point of view and could be justifiably supported from District funds. Such

funding would parallel the District's financial support of faculty government (expenses, supplies, and released time) on the basis of its value to the campus community. Although recent legislation has liberalized the uses for which District funds may be expended, from a practical point of view an inherent disadvantage is the constraints placed upon District funds and the requirements and procedures required by the County.

2. Funding Through Auxiliary Services.

Student government has historically been linked to the co-curricular student activity program at El Camino College and at other community colleges throughout the state. Unable to any longer fund the co-curricular program due to declining card sales, the Associated Students, in turn, contributed to the Auxiliary Services budget to assist with inflationary costs. It is now recommended that:

a. An "El Camino College Activities and Services" membership card be sold to ECC students at the time of registration. It is believed that the Auxiliary Services Board of Directors, with backing from the ECC Board of Trustees, is in a better position to raise revenues from card sales than is the Associated Students.

b. The ECC Board of Trustees endorse the ECC Activites and Services card and encourage through Board Policy all ECC students to purchase the card and participate in the co-curricular, activity, and government programs funded thereby.

c. At least one-third of the funds collected from Activities and Services card sales be earmarked for student government, programs, services, and activities to be allocated by the Student Affairs Advisory Committee.

The historical, present, and proposed relationships described above are illustrated in Appendix I.

3. The Sale of A. S. Membership Cards.

For the past twenty-seven years an A. S. membership card (or activity booklet) has been sold to ECC students in conjunction with the registration process. For the past half-dozen years membership sales have been disappointing at best. Too many students are very much aware that high school "student body cards" are strictly voluntary and the low membership pattern is maintained at the College level. The voluntary A. S. fee seems to some as analagous to a voluntary income tax and seems to be just about that effective.

4. Funding From Reserves.

A temporary financial solution would utilize A. S. reserves for a period of two (2) years on a pilot basis. During this time the new form of government could become established and justify its worth so that funding could be requested from Auxiliary, the District or elsewhere. Present reserves of approximately $60,000.00 could fund a modest government, activity, and services program from July 1, 1974, through June 30, 1976.

The Joint Study Committee on Student Governance recommends suggestion No. 2 above, Funding Through Auxiliary Services, as its first choice.

VI. CONCLUSION

Members of the Joint Study Committee on Student Governance believe that they have completed their charge to study and make recommendations about student governance at El Camino College. The Committee has attempted to gather ideas and suggestions from all interested members of our academic community; has investigated alternative forms of student governance; and has made recommendations to the Associated Students, Faculty, Administration, and Board of Trustees. It now calls for all segments of the campus community to support the expanded concept of student governance which is being proposed.

The new form of student governance calls for an all-college student senate, which is composed of representatives from student councils in each academic division. Members of the Study Committee believe that the implementation of these concepts will dramatically increase both the effectiveness of student governance and number of students participating in its processes. Further, the proposal should bring students closer to the mainstream of campus life.

Finally, members of the Committee recognize the limitations of constitutional, statutory, or other structural change. They realize that an effective system of student governance will not be legislated. No matter which form of student governance is adopted at El Camino College, it will ultimately be those persons within the campus community who "make it or break it." For in the last analysis, people--far more than form or structure--will determine the quality and effectiveness of student participation in student governance at El Camino College.

APPROVAL

As members of the Joint Study Committee on Student Governance, our signatures below indicate our individual acceptance and endorsement of this report.

Students

Lois Stirrat

Leigh Bloom

Michael Cummings

Jay Garner

Faculty

Serge Freeman

Tom Hodges

Charles Sohner

Administration

Henry P. Kirk

Martha Pate

Virginia Pfiffner

Other student members of the Committee not available for signature on this Report:

James V. Barbieri
Thomas Peck
Jeff Ross
Richard Ruiz

May, 1974

APPENDIX A

STUDENT GOVERNMENT SURVEY

A special study committee composed of students, faculty, and administrators wants your ideas about student government at El Camino College.

Directions: Please darken slot corresponding to your response to the following questions. Use back of answer sheet for comments or suggestions.

Information About You (Do not provide your name.)

1. Your Age? (A)21 and under (B)22-25 (C)26-36 (D)over 35

2. Your Sex? (A)Male (B)Female

3. Semester at ECC? (A)First (B)Second (C)Third (D)Fourth (E)Five or more

4. Are you enrolled? (A)Day only (B)Evening only (C)Both

5. Number of units now carried? (A)6 or under (B)7-11 (C)12 or more

6. Current paid membership in Associated Students? (A)Yes (B)No

7. Have you ever voted in an ECC Associated Students election? (A)Yes (B)No

Your Reactions to the Present Student Government (MARK (A)Yes (B)No (C)Don't know)

8. The present ECC Student government is operating effectively.

9. The present student government is providing benefits to me as an ECC student.

10. The present student government communicates adequately with the student body.

Your Ideas About Student Government (MARK (A)Yes (B)No (C)Don't know)

11. Some sort of student government is desirable at El Camino College.

12. Student government should concern itself with student activities and social affairs on campus (dances, concerts, bands on lawn, etc.).

13. Student government should concern itself with providing student services (tutoring, encounter groups, etc.).

14. Student government should have a voice in academic policy decisions (teacher evaluation, new courses, etc.).

15. Student government should have a voice in administrative policy decisions (hiring teachers and administrators, recommending or reviewing college policy).

16. Student government should be a platform for expressing opinions pro and con on current state and national issues pertaining to education (tuition, graduation requirements, GI benefits).

17. Student government should be a platform for expressing opinions pro and con on current state and national political issues (foreign policy, candidates, domestic policy).

18. Student government candidates should be subject to the same eligibility rules (units, grades, etc.) governing students participating in most college extra-curricular activities.

19. In addition to elected student officers, some student government posts should be filled by appointment based on ability (as determined by interview and/or Civil Service type tests).

20. Some student government officers with major responsibilities should receive some salary for their services.

21. On a specified election date, some class time should be utilized for student body elections.

22. Rather than election of all student officers from the entire student body at large, some student officers should be elected to represent specified academic interest groups (declared majors would vote for representatives by dept.).

SAO/3-19-74

Thanks for your help.

AN ANALYSIS
OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT SURVEY

The ages of the respondees to the questionnaire had the following distribution: 67 per cent 21 years and under, 18 per cent between 22 and 25 years of age, 11 per cent between 26 and 36 years of age, and 3 per cent over 35 years of age. As would be expected, this age distribution varies according to other classifications in which an individual belongs. For example, instead of 67 per cent 21 years of age and under, as is so of the total group, those enrolled in evening only show 20 per cent 21 years of age and under. However, the age distribution for the total sample is representative of the total population.

The sex distribution is 58 per cent male and 42 per cent female. The "semester at El Camino College" distribution is 11 per cent first semester at El Camino College, 38 per cent second semester, 12 per cent third semester, 21 per cent fourth semester, and 18 per cent fifth semester or more.

Those enrolled in day classes only represent 80 per cent of the sample, while those in evening classes only are four per cent. Those enrolled in both day and evening classes represent 16 per cent of the sample.

Eleven per cent are enrolled in six units or less, and 21 per cent are in seven to eleven units. Sixty-eight per cent enrolled in 12 or more units.

The number of Associated Student memberships paid in the sample is 43 per cent as opposed to 57 per cent not paying memberships.

Those casting votes in an ECC Associated Students election is 16 per cent. Those not casting votes is 83 per cent of the sample.

With these characteristics of the sample identified, the following results were obtained. Eight per cent of the sample indicated that the present ECC student government is operating effectively. This eight per cent varies when the total sample is analyzed according to the various categories. The lowest percentage indicating "yes" to this question was those who this semester were in their third semester at El Camino College, in which six per cent said "yes." The highest per cent indicating "yes" to this question was 18 per cent. This group was the group that indicated they had voted in an ECC Associated Student election. Only 13 per cent of the total group indicated that the present ECC student government is not operating effectively, and 78 per cent didn't know.

Of the total sample, 16 per cent indicated that the present student government is providing benefits to the respondee as an ECC student. The range of response from the various categories agreeing with this statement was from eight per cent to 29 per cent. Twenty-three per cent indicated that the present student government is not providing benefits to the respondee as a student, and 61 per cent did not know.

To the question the present student government communicates adequately with the student body, of the total group six per cent agreed with variations per group ranging from two to eight per cent. Forty-seven per cent did not agree, and 47 per cent did not know.

To the question some sort of student government is desirable at El Camino College, 80 per cent agreed with categories varying from 73 to 88 per cent. Only four per cent did not agree, and 16 per cent did not know.

Of the category student government should concern itself with student activities and social affairs on campus, 80 per cent agreed with a range according to category from 70 to 87 per cent. Nine per cent did not agree, and 11 per cent did not know.

For the item student government should concern itself with providing student services, 81 per cent agreed with categories ranging from 68 per cent to 84 per cent. Ten per cent did not agree, and nine per cent did not know.

To the statement student government should have a voice in academic policy decisions, 81 per cent of the total group agreed with variations ranging from 73 to 86 per cent. Ten per cent did not agree, and nine per cent did not know.

The item student government should have a voice in administrative policy decisions indicated that for the total group 51 per cent agreed with variability ranging from 40 to 67 per cent. Thirty-three per cent did not agree with this statement, and 16 per cent did not know.

The response to the question student government should be a platform for expressing opinions pro and con on current state and national issues pertaining to education, 79 per cent of the total sample agreed with variability ranging from 74 per cent to 88 per cent. Eleven per cent disagreed, and ten per cent did not know.

To the item student government should be a platform for expressing opinions pro and con on current state and national political issues, 40 per cent agreed with a variability of from 32 to 48 per cent. Forty-five per cent did not agree, and 15 per cent did not know.

Responses to the question student government candidates should be subject to the same eligibility rules governing students participating in most college extra-curricular activities, 80 per cent agreed with categorical agreement ranging from 75 to 90 per cent. Only eight per cent of the total group disagreed, and 12 per cent did not know.

Fifty-nine per cent of the sample agreed with the statement, in addition to elected student officers, some student government posts should be filled by appointment based on ability, with the various categories ranging from 54 to 71 per cent in the affirmative, 24 per cent disagreed, and 17 per cent did not know.

To the item some student government officers with major responsibilities should receive some salary for their services, only 27 per cent agreed with variations ranging from 20 to 39 per cent categorical agreement. Fifty-seven per cent disagreed, and 17 per cent did not know.

Some class time should be utilized for student body elections, 45 per cent agreed with categorical agreement ranging from 36 per cent to 55 per cent. Forty-five per cent disagreed, and 10 per cent did not know.

For the last item on the questionnaire which reads, "Rather than election of all student officers from the entire student body at large, some student officers should be elected to represent specified academic interest groups," 53 per cent indicated agreement with variability ranging from 47 per cent to 65 per cent. Twenty-eight per cent did not agree, and 19 per cent did not know.

It is emphasized that a response set did not exist with returns of the questionnaires. The percents of agreement ranged from six per cent to 81

per cent. Some items had rather homogeneous response from the various groups analyzed, while others displayed heterogeneity. The same was true of those responding "no" on the various categories. These responses ranged from four per cent to 57 per cent, and those not knowing the various categories ranged from nine per cent to 78 per cent.

Although the sample was a small proportion of the total population, the characteristics of the population appear representative of the total population. When the ranges of the various categorical groupings are taken into account, these data should be viewed as a good guide to show tendencies of the El Camino College student body towards student government.

STUDENT CHARACTERISTICS

OF THOSE RESPONDING TO THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT SURVEY

ITEM	TOTAL	21 & UNDER	1B	1C	1D	2A	2B	3A	3B	3C	3D	3E	4A	4B	4C	5A	5B	5C	6A	6B	7A	7B
1. Age of Respondees																						
a. 21 and under	67	100	-	-	-	61	75	49	84	48	77	45	72	20	58	24	66	74	69	66	58	69
b. 22 - 25	18	-	100	-	-	24	11	28	8	30	17	29	17	10	27	29	19	17	17	19	25	17
c. 26 - 36	11	-	-	100	-	12	10	19	5	13	6	24	9	47	13	31	13	7	11	11	15	10
d. over 35	3	-	-	-	100	3	4	4	3	10	1	2	3	23	1	17	2	2	3	4	2	4
2. Sex of Respondees																						
a. male	58	53	75	63	48	100	-	55	53	60	57	68	58	70	54	51	54	60	54	61	64	56
b. female	42	47	25	37	52	-	100	45	47	40	43	32	42	30	46	49	46	40	46	39	36	44
3. Semesters at ECC																						
a. first	11	8	17	18	13	10	12	100	-	-	-	-	10	13	12	25	19	6	11	11	2	12
b. second	38	47	17	18	35	35	42	-	100	-	-	-	40	17	36	21	29	44	46	32	23	41
c. third	12	8	19	14	35	12	11	-	-	100	-	-	11	13	15	15	10	12	11	12	8	12
d. fourth	21	24	19	11	4	21	21	-	-	-	100	-	22	13	19	13	17	23	20	22	31	19
e. five or more	18	12	29	41	13	21	14	-	-	-	-	100	17	43	18	26	26	15	11	24	36	15
4. Enrolled																						
a. day only	80	85	75	63	65	80	80	77	83	75	83	74	100	-	-	61	81	83	82	79	82	80
b. evening only	4	1	2	19	30	5	3	5	2	5	3	10	-	100	-	32	3	1	3	5	4	5
c. both day and evening	16	13	23	19	4	14	17	17	15	20	14	15	-	-	100	7	16	17	15	16	14	15
5. Units Carrying																						
a. 6 or under	11	4	17	29	52	9	12	24	6	14	6	15	8	77	5	100	-	-	9	11	8	11
b. 7 - 11	21	21	21	25	13	20	23	36	16	18	17	30	21	17	22	-	100	-	15	26	19	21
c. 12 or more	68	75	62	45	35	71	65	40	78	69	76	55	70	7	74	-	-	100	76	62	72	67
6. Paid Assoc. Stud. Membership																						
a. yes	43	44	40	43	39	40	47	45	52	41	42	26	44	27	42	38	30	48	100	-	47	43
b. no	57	56	60	56	61	59	53	55	48	58	58	74	56	70	58	61	70	52	-	100	53	57
7. Voted in an ECCAS Election																						
a. yes	16	14	21	21	9	18	13	4	10	11	23	30	16	13	14	12	14	17	17	15	100	-
b. no	83	86	75	79	91	81	87	95	90	88	75	70	83	87	83	87	84	82	83	84	-	100

NUMBER OF

"YES" RESPONSES TO ITEMS 8 THROUGH 22

ITEM	TOTAL	21 & UNDER	1B	1C	1D	2A	2B	3A	3B	3C	3D	3E	4A	4B	4C	5A	5B	5C	6A	6B	7A	7B
8	8	8	11	7	9	10	7	9	9	6	7	10	8	10	6	13	8	8	9	8	18	7
9	16	15	22	13	13	16	16	8	15	21	15	22	16	13	19	17	15	17	20	13	29	14
10	6	5	7	7	5	6	6	5	6	2	6	8	6	3	4	7	6	6	6	5	7	5
11	80	78	79	83	83	78	81	73	80	82	80	78	79	87	76	83	79	79	86	74	88	78
12	80	84	72	77	70	79	82	73	85	79	79	78	82	80	74	82	76	82	86	76	87	79
13	81	83	84	68	74	79	83	80	82	84	81	77	82	77	76	83	78	82	83	79	83	81
14	81	83	80	73	74	79	84	83	83	79	82	76	81	73	83	86	77	81	81	80	86	80
15	51	52	55	48	39	53	50	55	55	47	51	46	51	40	56	46	50	53	54	49	67	49
16	79	80	78	76	83	77	81	80	81	85	77	72	78	87	80	79	74	80	83	76	88	77
17	40	41	40	35	48	40	40	45	42	52	35	32	39	37	47	44	42	40	39	41	45	39
18	80	79	84	84	83	80	81	80	78	78	85	82	81	90	75	87	78	80	83	78	83	80
19	59	59	62	55	65	59	60	71	58	60	60	54	59	57	63	65	59	59	64	56	65	58
20	27	24	34	29	39	29	23	33	26	35	20	26	26	30	31	27	27	27	27	26	38	25
21	45	46	41	43	57	46	44	55	49	46	40	36	45	53	41	46	48	44	50	41	54	43
22	53	51	58	50	65	51	55	52	51	58	49	57	54	50	47	53	49	54	55	51	48	54

2 — THE WARWHOOP, Oct. 19, 1973

Editorial

Needed alternatives sought

During the past few years students of El Camino have agreed that there must be a better way to conduct the campus government. They complain, gripe and shake their heads in disgust, unwilling to accept an inoperative Student Council, but also unwilling to suggest solutions.

The problems of an inefficient student government mount. Students no longer feel for or against Council, apparently not feeling at all.

This is the biggest problem. Obviously, solutions must be found. Hopefully, the newly formed study committee on student involvement in governance at EC will help to provide the necessary answers.

The goal of the committee is simple: to suggest a practical and applicable form of student government for EC. Finding an acceptable answer, however, is complex.

The study committee contains representatives from three factions, the faculty, Administration and students. These three groups will work together towards their goal, divided in three sub-committees. The sub-committees will all have different duties, each group composed of one faculty member, one administrator and one student.

Why do problems exist in student government? The fact finding committee will try to explain the reasons, delving into the history of EC's various former Councils.

Our present system isn't working, perhaps it is no, the most functional structure for EC's demands. What are the choices? The options committee's job will be to find alternatives. Council is now at the crossroads and can go in almost any direction.

The survey committee will work directly with the Administration, students and faculty, polling views and opinions. Through this vital feedback, everyone can be more truly represented and the needs and interests of all can be considered.

After a semester of research the sub-committees will meet to pool their findings. Together they will try to form a workable, beneficial solution for an improvement in student government.

The foundations are sound, the design a good one. Ideally, the plan should work. A great deal depends on the nine committee members, who will have to be serious and intent on finding answers.

The work only begins, with the committee, though. The rest of the responsibility goes to those approached for suggestions and aid.

We are tired of waiting. Something is finally being done. The blueprint is ready. With help from the tool of cooperation we will hopefully be able to build a strong and useful form of government.

Other A. S. governments offer alternatives for EC

By PATRICK MAZZA

"Student government (as it is now) acts as a barrier to student involvement rather than promoting it," Dr. Henry Kirk, dean of men, comments. "I think students are being shortchanged if they want to be meaningfully involved."

Moves are being made to form a joint committee of students, faculty and Administration to study the question of a change in El Camino student government.

"We're at a juncture," Associated Students President Jay Garner says. "The way we deal with this problem right now will greatly affect the outcome of the situation."

A.S. problems common

The problems of student apathy, declining A.S. card sales and lack of candidates for offices are not unique to EC. They are common with other schools and a few of the solutions tried at other colleges are presently under consideration.

One solution is a Defined Constituency plan. Instead of electing Council officers on an at-large basis, officers would be elected by a specific group of students.

Division representatives

One possibility is a student government for each division, elected by students with majors in the division. There are 11 divisions at EC. At least nine California community colleges use this plan.

At a few colleges, the old New England town meeting is being tried again. Representatives of faculty and Administration meet regularly with students interested in participating.

Problems raised

Problems and needs are brought to the floor, committees are appointed and reports are made at next week's meeting. Action may then be taken.

Somewhat related to this form is an Ad Hoc Group plan. Under this plan, interested people form groups dealing with specific issues.

Kleenex Government

Examples are groups formed around improving Cafeteria service or getting more bicycle racks. When the problem is solved, the group disbands. One name for this form is Kleenex Government because of the temporary nature of the groups.

A variation on EC's form is Associated Students incorporation. At many schools, the College of Marin for example, the A.S. has become a corporation.

A.S. becomes entity

The A.S. becomes a legal entity apart from the district. Relations between Administration and student government are changed, with the A.S. having a more independent status.

Another alternative is the Campus Intern Plan. Tried at UC-Davis, students help administrate. Working with faculty and Administration, they carry out governing tasks.

Lacks structure

Though this plan lacks a formal structure of student government, it is presumed that students working in the Administration will represent the student interest.

A variation on this form is an Educational Student Government plan. Students work with administrators for college credit in a work-study situation.

Apprentice role

For example, an elected commissioner of assemblies might work directly under the head of Community Services in an apprentice role instead of working with a separate budget.

An alternative that could be tried independently or in conjunction with another form is to create an office of ombudsman, an idea originated in Sweden. The function of an ombudsman is to act as a go-between between people and bureaucracy.

Group to study A. S. options

Student Involvement in Governance now has a student-faculty study committee to decide options in Student Government.

Associated Student President Jay Garner announced Monday that he has initiated the committee to research Student Government problems and solutions.

Comprised of three members from faculty, Administration and students, the committee will form three groups each to tackle a separate area 1—1 fact-finding, options available and surveys to decide "who wants what."

Dr. Kirk gives alternative

A proposal for an alternative government that could be considered was brought out in a report by Dr. Henry Kirk, dean of men.

As a member of a college accreditation team, Dr. Kirk examined the student government of the College of Marin in Kentfield.

Marin incorporated plan

The Marin body is incorporated into the state of California laws and is controlled by a seven-man board of directors, an elective position. The incorporation has been in effect since 1938.

To review proposals, Serge Freeman, president of the academic senate and a study committee member, has appointed two other members, Tom Hodges, history instructor and Dr. Charles Sohner, political science instructor.

Garner appoints members

Garner appointments are Jeff Ross, Maureen Walsh and Jim Barbieri. Administrative appointments are pending.

Council Members questioned the validity of Garner's study since he did not consult Council.

Council, study separate

Garner explains that the study evolved from his own curiosity. "It's mine. It has nothing to do with Council," Garner says.

Members also inquired whether the appointees were aware of their position. The president said that many had not been informed.

Continuing Council battle

In a continuing battle over the legality of Council's walk-out meeting of October 1, the majority for the second week voted not to approve the minutes of that meeting.

More appointments have been made to Council positions. Jim Rehmann is now commissioner of elections; Debbie DeGrazia, commissioner of health, education and welfare.

Dr. Kirk reports checks

Dr. Kirk reported on the grade and unit checks, notifying Council that all members were qualified.

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society has asked Council for one male and one female representative from El Camino to serve on the Youth Leadership Council on MS.

The representatives will attend three meetings of 1½ hours each and three hours of on-campus organizational work.

12/7/73

Classifieds

JILTED LOVER, 27 years old, loved and left by over 225,000 ECC students, seeks counsel on how to renew her affair with the student body. See letter to the editor from Jay Garner in this issue.

Letters

To the Editor,

For the past several years students have complained about the alleged ineffectiveness and impotence of student government at El Camino.

Now all EC students have an opportunity to help revitalize student representation and governance.

A special study committee composed of students, faculty and administrators seeks ideas and suggestions. Students are invited to attend one of three open hearings.

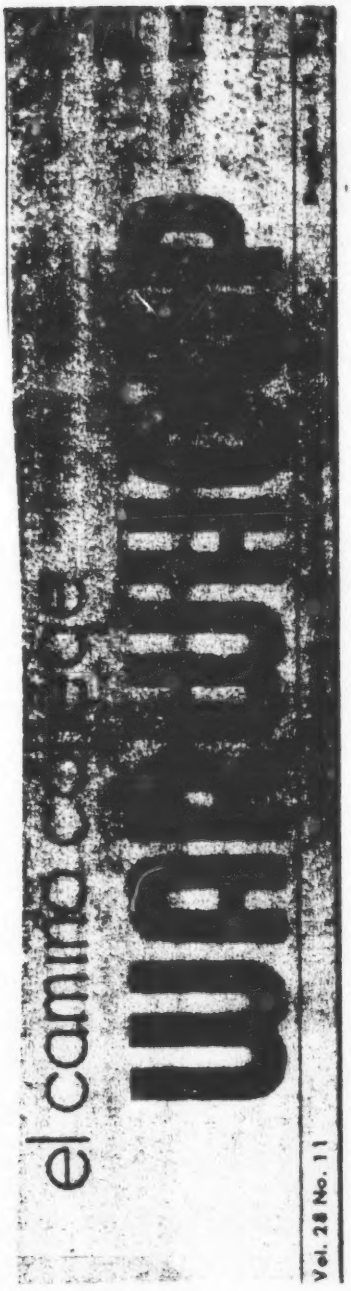
The first hearing will be Tuesday at 11:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room. Another will be held Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. in the Cafeteria. The last hearing will be Thursday at 1:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room.

Students may also jot down ideas and put them in the suggestion box located in the Cafeteria.

If anyone would like further information, they may contact me in the Student Government or Student Activities Offices.

The study committee invites EVERYONE to have a part in determining the student government for the future.

Sincerely,
Jay Garner
A.S. President



Committee sees outdated rules weakening A.S.

Resolving rules and policies that were formed in the 50's, outdated in the 60's and banned in the 70's is the goal of the Joint Study Committee on Student Governance.

Formed with Jay Garner as chairman the committee has a goal to study and make recommendations about student governance at El Camino.

Dean of Men, Dr. Henry Kirk's research showed that the same form of student government has been in existence at EC for 25 years.

Other committee members

Other members of the committee include Dr. Hamilton Maddaford who said the "heyday" of student government started in the late 1950's when there were probably 800 people involved in student programs.

Members believe that many of the problems seem to have started around 1965 when students began to seek positions in student government for their own personal gain and to bring their own philosophies which were mostly connected with something outside campus.

A.S. sales drop

Free speech was mirrored at EC and students stopped buying Associated Students cards about 1968.

Some of the propositions the committee has made include structuring of a student government that is more accessible to the whole student body and a new format of government.

Realization a need

A need to know the difference between the student body of the 60's and 70's is demanded now, members feel. The committee suggested that Dr. Jerry Garlock would be of assistance in getting more data about the present student body.

The next meeting will be with the President's Cabinet January 3 at 1:30 p.m. in the Board Room to develop a questionnaire on student involvement.

Further development of the Student Government on campus is in the making with open meetings and is open to students.

The Study Committee is on a fact finding tangent at the moment, with Dr. Garlock's research bringing some light on the history of student involvement, Jay Garner, A.S. president, said.

One of the statistics brought to light by Dr. Garlock was the fact that the average student spends six to seven semesters at EC.

Garner feels the need for student involvement is essential from the standpoint of the length of stay of the student.

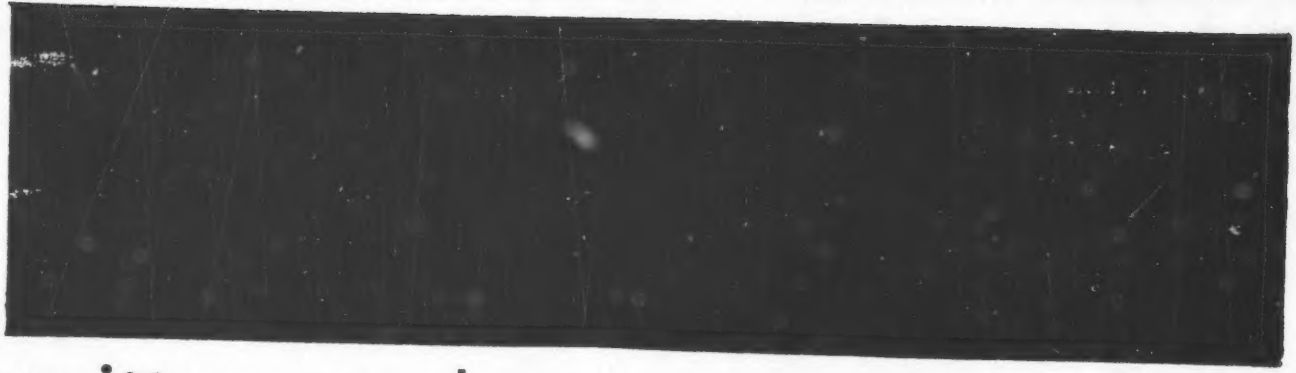
"The goals of student government have changed over the years," Garner said. "The system of government here has been completely outdated."

Dr. Garlock stated, that over 9,000 students take only night classes and are not really involved in the daytime student government.

About 12,000 students attend day classes which makes the student body almost split in half for the time they attend classes.

Student involvement seems to be on the incline, according to Garner, with the forming of the Study Committee.

In January, the study committee will present its findings regarding the situation of the present student government to the President's Cabinet.



Committee members voice disenchantment

"Gathering suggestions," is the goal at present of the Study Committee on Student Governance.

Jay Garner, chairman of the Study Committee, is working with faculty and students to improve the effectiveness of student government on campus. "We are still in the stage of gathering more ideas," Garner commented.

Last week the committee met with the President's Cabinet to explore the possibility of changing the present student government.

Sloan gives feelings

Merl Sloan feels the next step is to reach decisions on what will happen with Student government.

"Student government has become more politicalized than in the past," Sloan said. "Students were more interested in politics than in the welfare of the students."

Committee's laboratory start

Dr. C.W. Stine feels the committee started out as a laboratory outside of the classroom and is working together. "It's hard to measure the success of student government unless you measure it against something," Stine commented. "It should be an organization that mirrors the feelings, aspirations and purpose of the students on this campus."

Dr. Charles Sohner and Dr. Virginia Pfiffner, other members of the committee feel the current student government has lost its effect on campus.

Committee works together

"The committee is working together and has been effective in their meetings with the members of the faculty and student body," Dr. Pfiffner said.

Dr. Pfiffner, former Associated Students vice president at El Camino, feels that the meeting with the Presidents Cabinet and Monday's meeting with the Board of Trustees will help get the resolutions started.

Trustee meeting next

"The Board of Trustees will be the last group we will meet with this semester," Dr. Sohner said. Dr. Sohner feels that after the meetings, the committee will have enough information to resolve the condition of student government.

The Study Committee's meeting with the Board of Trustees is a special meeting to be held before the Board's regular meeting with the Cabinet.

'Board could help'

Garner feels the Board could help with suggestions of changing the present situation on campus.

After this meeting, the committee will start compiling the suggestions together to reach some definite conclusions on what steps should be taken to change the old student government.

Garner wants effect

Garner hopes that the committee will have some effect on next semester's officers to the point of getting their involvement with this proposal.

Many members of the committee feel the changes could come very soon if the students and faculty continue to work together. In the eyes of the committee, the college is in need of a new government that can function with the student body in mind.

Daily Breeze Torrance California Tues., Jan. 15, 1974

Student revisions urged

El Camino College's student government needs overhauling, recommends a student government study committee report.

The Joint Study Committee on Student Government (JSCSG), in a three-page report Monday to the Board of Trustees, said student expectations are not being met.

The student-faculty report, citing a turnout of only 155 voters in the spring 1973 Associated Student elections, said participation at the two-year community college is at a low.

The report calls for formation of a new student government.

The study group was formed in fall 1973 to examine dwindling interest in student government.

Validity and effectiveness of student government was declared minimal following an open hearing on campus, a student survey, and studies of the student body.

Editorial

Council faces last chance

Reports of student government's demise are not very highly exaggerated.

The dissipation of student government has been a long process. Associated Students card sales have steadily declined. Voter turnout in A.S. elections has been miniscule.

"An occasional rock band on the lawn hardly qualifies as meaningful interaction between students and their government."

Can El Camino students be blamed? An occasional rock band on the lawn hardly qualifies as meaningful interaction between students and their government. It is evident that student government is moribund.

Currently, a student-faculty-Administration committee is studying the situation. The committee, formed last semester, is examining alternatives to the current mode of student government.

Choices before it include: 1) a Student Council comprised of one member from each academic division, 2) a "Kleenex Government" of ad hoc committees, 3) a Civil Service-type test of governing abilities and 4) total abolition of student government.

The current student government claims it represents a change from the decline of recent years.

President Mike Cummings appears to recognize the symptoms of collapse. He calls the recent A.S. elections "a total abomination." He is correct.

When the highest student office on campus is won by default--there being just one candidate--the situation is nothing short of an abomination.

Cummings sees hope. Yet this same hope has been dangled in front of students semester after semester. Very little substance has emerged.

"The time has come for tangible changes. Student confidence must be restored."

The time has come for tangible changes. Student confidence in their government must be restored.

The spring 1974 semester is the last chance. If ideas from the joint study committee can be incorporated into a new, revitalized student government, fine.

If, as seems annoyingly likely, the government continues its catatonic ways--an inertia extended into perpetuity--then student government should be completely abolished.

Game playing is over. Reality starts now.

Editorial

Student Council change overdue

When a system consistently fails to live up to expectations, the obvious course is to change or scrap that system.

"By its very nature, the present form of student government is bound to fail in its basic objectives."

Such is the case with student government at El Camino. Year after year, student politicians proclaim that their presence on the Student Council will bring great improvements to campus life.

Inevitably, student government remains ineffective, muddling along to new heights of irrelevance.

The simple fact is this: by its very nature, the present form of student government is bound to fail in its basic objectives.

Student government is supposed to function as a liason between students and Administration. Recent Councils have not done this.

The very form of the Student Council almost dictates that it be in an adversary position to the Administration, instead of a cooperative relationship. Communication is soon replaced by conflict.

Another function of student government is to provide meaningful services to students. However, the rapid turnover of Council officials inevitable in an elective system works against such services being established.

"Alternatives should be put forward to the students at EC at the earliest possible date."

One Council initiates its pet projects, but soon after the next council is elected. New projects begin and the old ones are discarded.

Thus, students are left with a government that seems to be able to do little more than hire rock bands to play during activities hours.

The irrelevance and impotence of student government are apparent to students. For this reason, declining voting participation and declining A.S. card sales are inevitabilities.

The Warwhoop believes that it is time to change the form of student government at EC. The present system has deep structural flaws that cannot be corrected by a little tinkering "here and there." This has been tried for too long.

Therefore, alternatives should be put forward to the students of EC at the earliest possible date. An election should be scheduled to determine the form of a new student government, if any.

The time for action is now.

Editorial

Proposed A.S. constitution:

Two themes run through the proposed Associated Students constitution: decentralization of student government and greater student involvement in academic policy.

Both concepts represent vast improvements over the present constitution.

When the new constitution is placed before students for ratification on May 22 and 23, it should receive a "Yes" vote.

Decentralization of student government reverses the concept of a student government consisting of a single Student Council, a Council sometimes alarmingly insulated from student thinking.

Under the new constitution, each academic division will be the master of its own house.

At least five, and as many as 15, students in each division will sit as a division council. They will be elected only by students within that division.

The division council authority will be limited to its own division. It will coordinate student related activities within the division. Any problems arising within a division will be handled by sympathetic division council members. Undeclared majors will merge with the Division of Educational Services and the group will be known as the Division for Undeclared Majors.

"Decentralization of student government reverses the concept of a single Student Council, a Council sometimes alarmingly insulated from student thinking."

For matters relating to the entire school — as well as the appropriation of budget funds to each division — a school-wide Student Senate will be created.

Each division is granted two senators. When the declared majors within a division exceed 1000, then an additional senator for each 1000 majors will be granted.

Should a student judicial system be necessary, the Student Senate has the authority to establish one.

The second theme in the new Constitution is **student involvement in academic policy.** Results of the student opinion poll show that 81 per cent of EC students think that student government should have a voice in academic policy decisions.

The new constitution provides for that voice, both on a divisional basis as well as a school-wide basis.

Within each division, the position of student grievance commissioner will

its meaning, its importance

be established. This person "shall receive student complaints containing allegations of unjust or incompetent conduct by...staff employed within that division..."

The commissioner is then authorized to take the complaint to the president of the Academic Senate, the dean of the division, the dean of men or the dean of women.

The position of academic commissioner for each department within a division has been created. This person shall participate in all departmental meetings to the fullest degree possible. He will act as a liason between the division council and the department.

The chairperson of each division council has been authorized to "participate in all divisional meetings and meetings of divisional committees to the fullest degree possible."

Each division council is asked to facilitate "understanding and cooperation among the faculty, dean and divisional students."

The Student Senate will appoint an academic affairs commissioner "who shall participate in all meetings of the Academic Senate Council and the General Curriculum Committee to the fullest degree possible."

"The new constitution has mapped out pressure points where students can come in contact with academic policymakers."

The president of the Student Senate is authorized to "attend all meetings of the El Camino College Board of Trustees and act as a liason between the Senate and the Board, the president of the college and administrative agencies of the college."

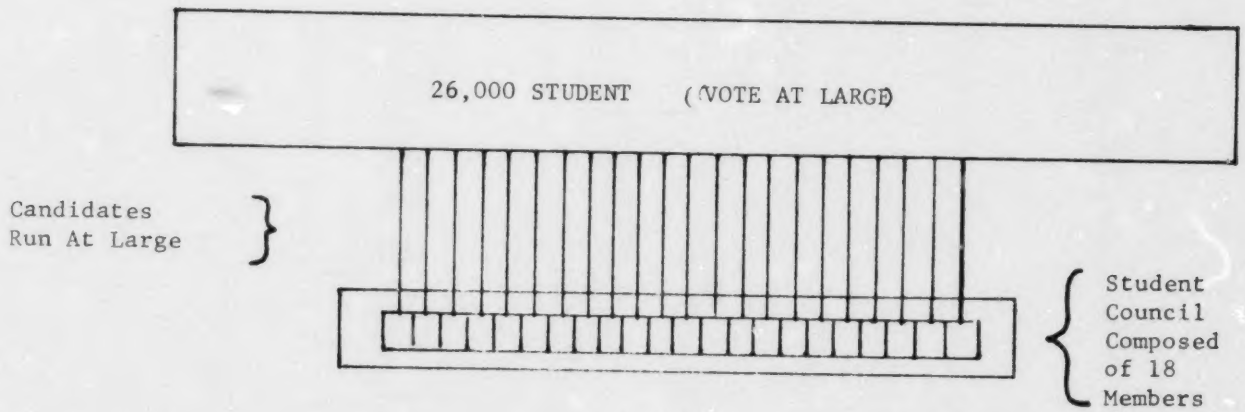
The new constitution has mapped out pressure points where students can come in contact with academic policymakers.

While the wording may be vague to placate those faculty members who are wary of student participation in academic decision making, the concept is dynamic.

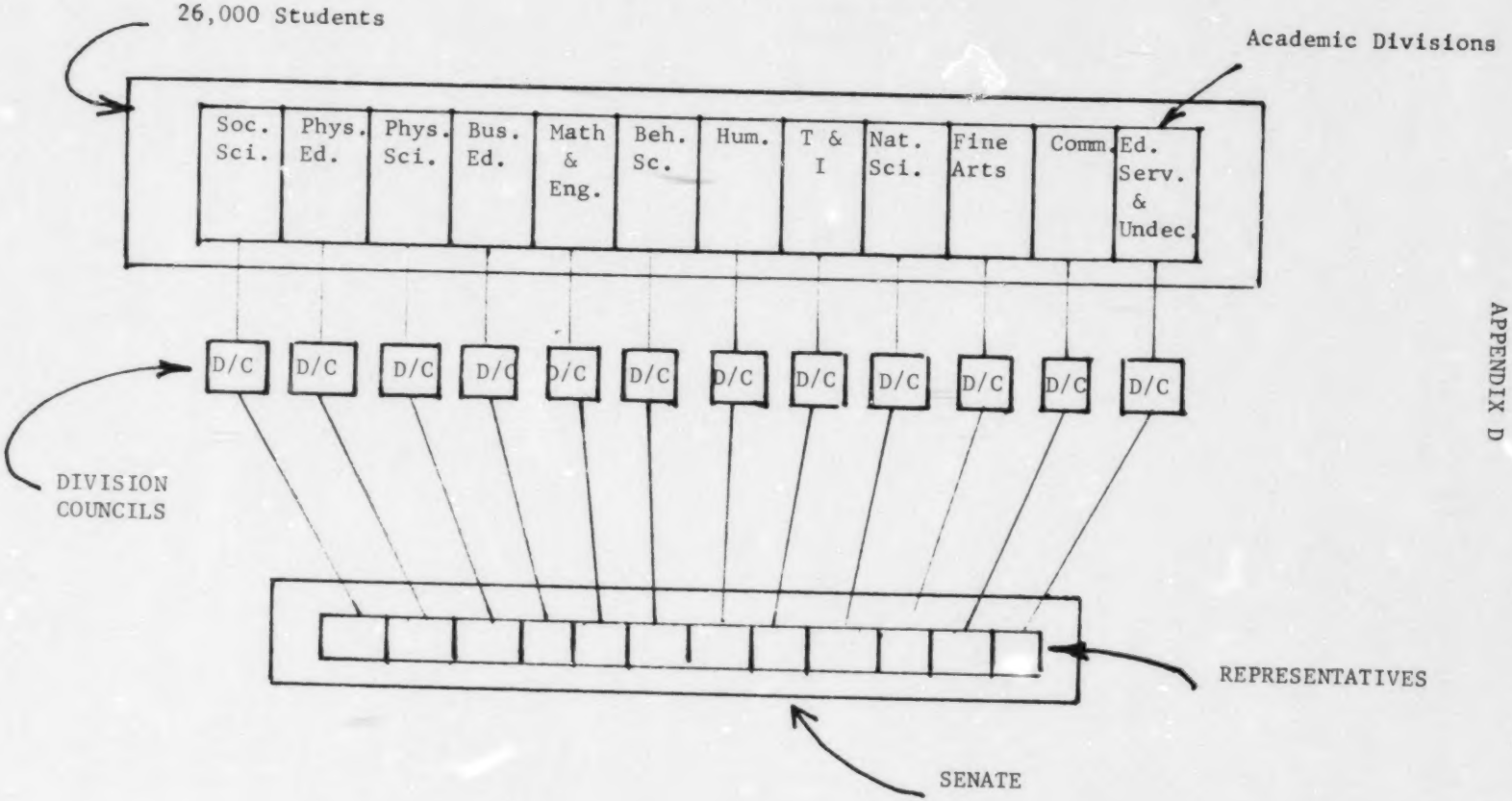
Energetic use of the provision — especially in the first semester under the new constitution — will set the precedent of a degree of student control over his own academic destiny. This can only be healthy for present and future students of EC.

May 22 and 23 are the voting dates for the new constitution. The Warwhoop emphatically urges its ratification.

PRESENT FORM OF STUDENT GOVERNMENT



PROPOSED DIVISION COUNCILS & SENATE



Original Draft: 4/23/74
Revised Draft: 5/1/74
Second Revised Draft: 5/3/74
Approved by Student Council: 5/6/74
Approved by The Associated Students: 5/23/74

APPENDIX E

CONSTITUTION OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF EL CAMINO COLLEGE

PREAMBLE

We, the students of El Camino College, in order to have a voice in the decisions which affect us, enlarge our capacity for democratic self-government, enrich the quality of campus life, and enhance, as we can, the general excellence of this institution, adopt this Constitution.

ARTICLE I

MEMBERSHIP AND ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE

Section 1. Membership

All persons enrolled in El Camino College shall be members of the Associated Students of El Camino College.

Section 2. Organization

The student government provided herein shall parallel the organization structure of El Camino College. Since the instructional program of the College is administered through the divisions into which all academic departments are grouped, members of the Associated Students shall be represented both in decentralized councils grouped according to academic major, and in a centralized Senate, representative of the entire student body. Therefore, the government of the Associated Students shall be comprised of:

A. Division Councils corresponding to the number of instructional divisions within the College.

B. Senate composed of representatives from division councils.

C. Commissioners and other appointees chosen by the division councils and the senate.

ARTICLE II

ELECTIONS AND VOTING

Section 1. Voting Rights

All members of the Associated Students of El Camino College may elect members of a Division Council.

Section 2. Academic Major

Members of the Associated Students of El Camino College with a formally declared academic major may vote for candidate for the Division Council representing their major field, and members without a declared major may vote only for candidates in the Division Council designated in the By-Laws of this Constitution.

Section 3. Election Times

Some members of each Division Council shall be elected in May and others in December. Election of one-half plus one of the Division Council members shall take place in May of each year. Election of the remaining Division Council members shall take place in December of each year. Election shall be by secret ballot on dates determined by the Senate.

Section 4. Terms of Office

Members of both the Division Councils and the Senate shall serve one-year terms beginning after completion of the semester of their candidacy and establishment of their eligibility to hold office.

Section 5. Qualifications for Office

Members of Division Councils must maintain at least a 2.0 (C) grade average during their terms of office, exclusive of summer sessions, and must hold a valid student activities card. Each Division shall set its own unit qualifications not to exceed eight (8) units. Any voting representative sent to the Senate shall maintain a minimum of eight (8) units. To become a candidate for a Division Council, a student must be maintaining a 2.0 (C) grade point average in present and previous course work at El Camino College.

Section 6. Regulations of Electoral Process

The Senate may enact regulations governing campaigns for, and election to, the positions established herein.

ARTICLE III

DIVISION COUNCILS

Section 1. Composition

Each Division Council shall be composed of five members whose declared majors must be primarily within the jurisdiction of the appropriate division. Each Division Council, however, may increase its membership to a maximum of fifteen (15) members by authorizing the election of no more than three (3) additional members at each future election.

Section 2. Vacancies

Should a vacancy occur on a Division Council as a result of death, resignation, or disqualification, the remaining members of the Division Council may fill it by calling a special election, or making an appointment to the Division Council within 30 days of the date on which the vacancy occurred. The person chosen to fill the vacancy shall serve the remainder of the unexpired term of his predecessor.

Section 3. Meetings

Meetings of the Division Councils shall be at regularly scheduled times at least once each month from September through June and at whatever other times and/or intervals each Division Council shall determine.

Section 4. Presiding Officer

Each Division Council shall elect one of its members as Chairperson, who shall preside at Division Council meetings. The Chairperson shall be elected by majority vote of the Division Council at its first meeting following the May election for a one-year term. If, however, no person receives a majority of the votes, the member who received the most votes in the May election shall be the Chairperson until such time as some other member receives a majority vote.

Section 5. Other Officers

The Chairperson of each Division Council shall appoint, subject to confirmation by a majority vote of the Division Council, the following other officers:

A. Vice Chairperson, who shall preside at Division Council meetings in the absence of the Chairperson, exercise all of the Chairperson's other authority if the Chairperson has been absent from two consecutive Division Council meetings, and succeed to the Chairperson's office in the event it becomes vacant.

B. Secretary, who shall keep records of votes at Division Council meetings, prepare agendas for and minutes of Division Council meetings, and attend to all correspondence requested by the Chairperson or a majority of the Division Council.

C. Elections Commissioner, who shall supervise the preparation of all ballots for the election of Division Council members, certify ballot counts and election results, and administer campaign and election regulations.

D. Student Grievance Commissioner, who shall receive student complaints containing allegations of unjust or incompetent conduct by any member of the Associated Students or staff

employed within that Division and attempt to resolve the issue in dispute without publicity, and in consultation with one or more of the following: President of the Academic Senate, Dean of the Division, Dean of Men, or Dean of Women.

E. One Academic Commissioner for each department within the Division, who shall participate in all departmental meetings to the fullest degree possible and act as a liaison between the Division Council and the Department.

F. Officers to fill any other positions created by the Division Council.

Section 6. Powers of the Division Council

The authority of the Division Council shall include but not be limited to:

A. Removal of any of its officers by a 2/3 vote.

B. Requirement of periodic reports from its commissioners and delegate additional responsibilities to them.

C. Provision for student services within the Division as it deems appropriate.

D. Adoption of a budget appropriating money for its legitimate functions.

E. Raising funds to suppliment those allocated to it by the Senate.

F. Obtaining whatever supplies and facilities are required to perform its functions effectively.

G. Facilitating understanding and cooperation among the faculty, dean, and divisional students.

H. Soliciting a faculty advisor from among the divisional members of the Academic Council.

Section 7. Powers of the Chairperson

In addition to other powers enumerated herein, the Chairperson shall have the authority to:

A. Make recommendations to the Division Council.

B. Call special meetings of the Division Council by written notification to each member at least 24 hours in advance.

C. Participate in all divisional meetings and meetings of divisional committees to the fullest degree possible.

D. Submit proposed budgets to the Division Council.

E. Assume responsibility for discharging other obligations conferred upon him/her by the Division Council.

F. Represent the Division Council on appropriate ceremonial, social, and political occasions.

G. Serve as a member of the Senate.

ARTICLE IV

STUDENT SENATE

Section 1. Composition

The Senate shall be composed of two members from each Division Council. When the number of declared majors exceeds 1,000, the Division Council shall be entitled to one additional senator for each additional thousand students or part thereof. Additional members shall be elected alternately in May and December.

Section 2. Selection

The members from each Division Council serving on the Senate shall be the Chairperson and other members elected by majority vote of the Division Council at its first meeting following the December election.

Section 3. Meetings

Meetings of the Senate shall be at regularly scheduled times at least once each month and at whatever other times and/or intervals it shall determine.

Section 4. Presiding Officer

The Senate shall elect one of its members as President, who shall preside at Senate meetings. The President shall be elected by majority vote of Senate members at its first meeting following the May elections for a one-year term. In the event no person receives a majority vote, the President shall be elected from the two candidates who received the most votes. The person elected as President shall no longer serve on a Division Council.

Section 5. Other Officers

The President shall appoint, subject to confirmation by a majority vote of the Senate:

A. A Vice President, whose authority and responsibility shall parallel that of a Division Council Vice Chairperson.

B. A Secretary whose authority and responsibility shall parallel that of a Division Council Secretary.

C. An Elections Commissioner, who shall receive election certifications from Division Council Elections Commissioners, and report all election results to the Senate.

D. An Academic Affairs Commissioner, who shall participate in all meetings of the Academic Council and the General Curriculum Committee to the fullest degree possible.

E. A Business Affairs Commissioner, who shall serve as Treasurer and act as student representative to the College Business Department to the fullest degree possible.

F. A Student Affairs Commissioner, who shall serve as representative to the Student Personnel Department to the fullest degree possible.

G. Officers to fill any other positions created by the Senate.

Section 6. Powers of the Senate

The authority of the Senate shall include but not be limited to:

A. Removal of any of its officers by a 2/3 vote.

B. Requirement of periodic reports from its commissioners and delegate additional responsibilities to them.

C. Provision for student services to the Associated Students as it deems appropriate.

D. Adoption of a budget appropriating money for its own use and for that of the Division Councils.

E. Raising funds to supplement those allocated to it.

F. Obtaining whatever supplies and facilities are required to perform its functions effectively.

G. Facilitating understanding and cooperation among all segments of the college community.

H. Establishment of a student court if it deems necessary.

Section 7. Powers of the President

In addition to the powers enumerated herein, the President shall have the authority to:

A. Make recommendations to the Senate.

B. Call special meetings of the Senate by written notification to each member at least 24 hours in advance.

C. Submit proposed budgets to the Senate.

D. Assume responsibilities for discharging other obligations conferred by the Senate.

E. Attend all meetings of the El Camino College Board of Trustees, and act as liaison between the Senate and the Board, the President of the College, and administrative agencies of the college.

F. Represent Senate and Associated Students on appropriate ceremonial, social, and political occasions.

ARTICLE V

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Section 1. Council Memberships

The Vice Chairpersons of the Division Councils and the Vice President of the Senate must be members of the respective Councils. Division Council secretaries and Senate Secretaries need not be members of the bodies they serve, nor need they be members of the Associated Students. Division Council Commissioners and other appointed Division Council officials must be members of the Associated Students with declared majors in an academic field within the Division. They may or may not be members of the Division Council. All Senate Commissioners and other appointed officials must be members of the Associated Students and may or may not be members of the Senate.

Section 2. Qualifications

All appointed officers of the Division Councils and the Senate except Council Secretaries must possess the same grade and unit qualifications as the elected Council members.

Section 3. Appointment Limitations

No member of the Associated Students shall be appointed to more than one office in a Division Council and the Senate combined. No person may be appointed to any office, except Vice Chairperson or Vice President unless an applicant screening committee certifies that person as having submitted one of the three most superior applications for that office.

Section 4. Applicant Screening Committees

There shall be an Applicant Screening Committee for each Division Council consisting of the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and one

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

other Division Council member chosen by the Vice Chairperson. This committee shall announce through all available campus channels the deadline for submitting applications for each commissioner or other position to be appointed at least ten days in advance of that deadline. Each such announcement shall include a job description. The Committee shall also prepare a brief application form which shall include a request for two letters of recommendation plus a brief essay by the applicant indicating his or her qualifications and proposals for discharging the obligations of the office to be filled. At its discretion, the committee may interview applicants and after examining the written applicantions shall select the three most superior applicants. There shall also be a Senate Applicant Screening Committee consisting of the President, the Vice President, and one other Senate member chosen by the Vice President. It shall perform functions in the selection of Senate Commissioners and other officers comparable to those performed by the Division Council Screening Committees and shall follow the same procedures. Neither a Divisional Council Chairperson nor the Senate President may appoint any applicant not selected as among the three most superior. Commissioners and other officers shall serve from the time their appointment is confirmed until the first meeting after the May election or until they are removed, whichever is first.

ARTICLE VI

FUNDING

Section 1. Authority to Raise Revenue

The agencies and officers of the Associated Students government herein shall have the authority to raise revenues from whatever sources are deemed most beneficial, in accordance with relevant sections of the Education Code of the State of California and policies adopted by the Board of Trustees of El Camino College.

Section 2. Continuity of Authority

The Senate shall assume the assets and liabilities of the Associated Students, which were formerly the responsiblity of Student Council.

ARTICLE VII

MISCELLANEOUS

Section 1. By-Laws

Each Division Council and the Senate may adopt by-laws by a 2/3 vote.

Section 2. Motions and Resolutions

All proposals submitted to the Division Councils and the Senate must be introduced by members thereof and unless otherwise specified herein shall be enacted by a majority of those present and voting.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Section 3. Quorum

A quorum necessary to conduct Division Council business shall consist of three (3) members or a majority of the total membership, whichever is larger. A quorum necessary to conduct Senate business shall consist of a majority of the total membership.

Section 4. Open meetings

All meetings of the Division Councils and the Senate shall be open to the public except insofar as they deal with the confirmation, dismissal, or censure of officers, commissioners, and other appointees.

Section 5. Expulsion

Each Division Council and the Senate may expell a member thereof by a 2/3 vote of the total membership, but no sooner than one month after such an expulsion motion is introduced.

Section 6. Amendments

Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by a 2/3 vote of the Senate or a petition signed by 10% of the members of the Associated Students. Such proposed amendments shall be submitted to an Associated Students referendum at the next regular election and approved by a majority of those voting.

Section 7. Validity

The validity of this Constitution and all actions taken by the agencies and officials established herein shall depend upon conformity with relevant sections of the Education Code of the State of California and policies adopted by the Board of Trustees of El Camino College.

Section 8. Undeclared Majors

The Division of Educational Services shall hereinafter be referred to as the Division for Undeclared Majors, subject to change by the Senate. All guidelines, obligations, and powers shall be granted to the Undeclared majors of this College as enumerated in Article III, "Divisional Councils."

Section 9. Ratification

This Constitution shall be ratified as prescribed by the existing constitution of the Associated Students and shall take effect with whatever modifications in election dates and terms of office during the 1974-75 school year as the Spring 1974 Student Council shall provide.

Means of Implementation

1. To implement the proposed new Constitution, the term of office of the present Student Council shall be extended to October 15, 1974.

2. The first election in fall, 1974, of all officers of Divisions shall meet the 8 unit requirement.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

EL CAMINO COLLEGE
INTER-CLUB COUNCIL CONSTITUTION

Preamble

The Inter-Club Council exists to facilitate the exchange of ideas and information among campus clubs and organizations; coordinate these activities, projects, programs; and enhance their operations and effectiveness.

Article I NAME AND MEMBERSHIP

The name of this organization shall be the Inter-Club Council of El Camino College. It's membership shall be composed of the president or his designate of each organization chartered by Inter-Club Council.

Article II OFFICERS

Section 1. Section 1. The Chairperson of Inter-Club Council shall be elected by majority vote of members present at the first meeting of each semester. ~~The Commissioner of Activities shall be the Chairman of Inter-Club Council~~. He shall vote to make or break a tie.

Section 2. The Vice-Chairman of Inter-Club Council shall be elected by Inter-Club Council. He shall preside in case of the Chairman's absence.

Section 3. The Secretary of Inter-Club Council shall be appointed by the Chairman.

ARTICLE III FINANCES

Section 1. Inter-Club Council shall establish a Finance Committee which shall be composed of: Commissioner of Activities, the Inter-Club Council Vice Chairman, the Inter-Club Council Secretary, and two members at large.

Section 2. The duties of the Finance Committee shall include, but are not limited to:

a. preparation and submission of Inter-Club Council Activities budget.
b. approval of expenditures in Activities budget.
c. approval of loans from Inter-Club loan account.

ARTICLE IV AMENDMENTS AND RATIFICATION

Section 1. An amendment to this Constitution may be proposed by ten percent of Inter-Club Council Membership.

Section 2. Amendments to this Constitution shall be ratified by two-thirds of the members present and voting at a meeting of Inter-Club Council prior to Student Council approval.

ARTICLE V MEETINGS

Section 1. Meetings shall be run in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised.

Section 2. Quorum shall be established as over one-half of the active clubs on campus.

ARTICLE VI BY-LAWS

Shall be made by a two-thirds vote of Inter-Club Council.

APPENDIX G

STUDENT AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A. Purpose

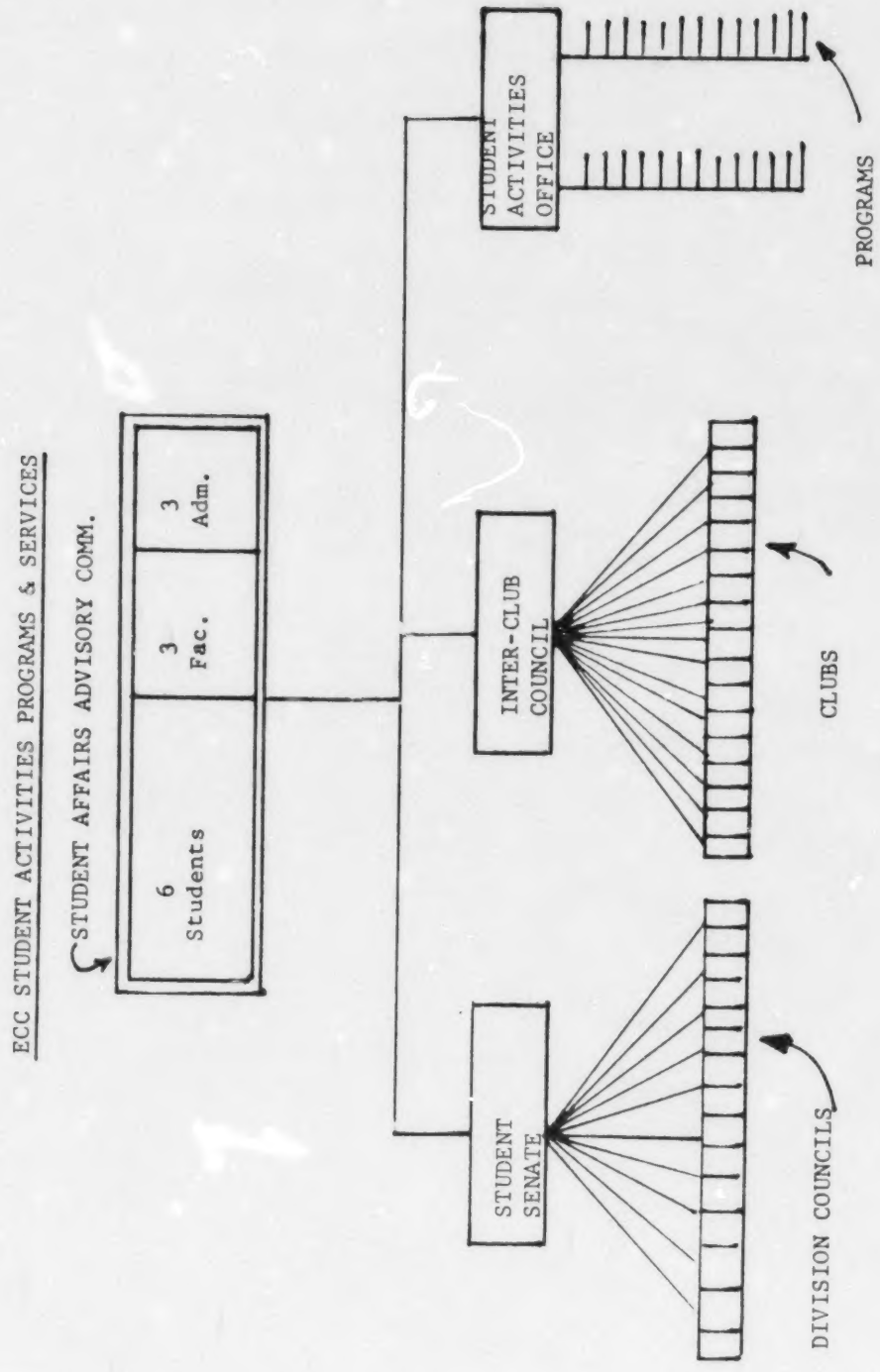
The purpose of the Committee shall be to review and, as necessary, propose revision of the policies, regulations, and procedures which relate to student affairs at El Camino College; to review and make recommendations concerning student government structures, clubs, and organizations, student activities and services to El Camino College; to serve as an appeal body to investigate and make recommendations concerning matters referred to it.

B. Composition and Selection

The Student Affairs Advisory Committee is composed of six students, three teaching faculty members, and three administrators of El Camino College. Of the six students, three are to be members of the Associated Students Senate, appointed by the A. S. President. The three additional student members are to be members at large, chosen by the A. S. Senate from a list of student petitioners after at least one week of college-wide notification of vacancies is made. The three faculty members are to be appointed by the President of the Academic Senate. The three members of the Administration shall be appointed by the President of El Camino College.

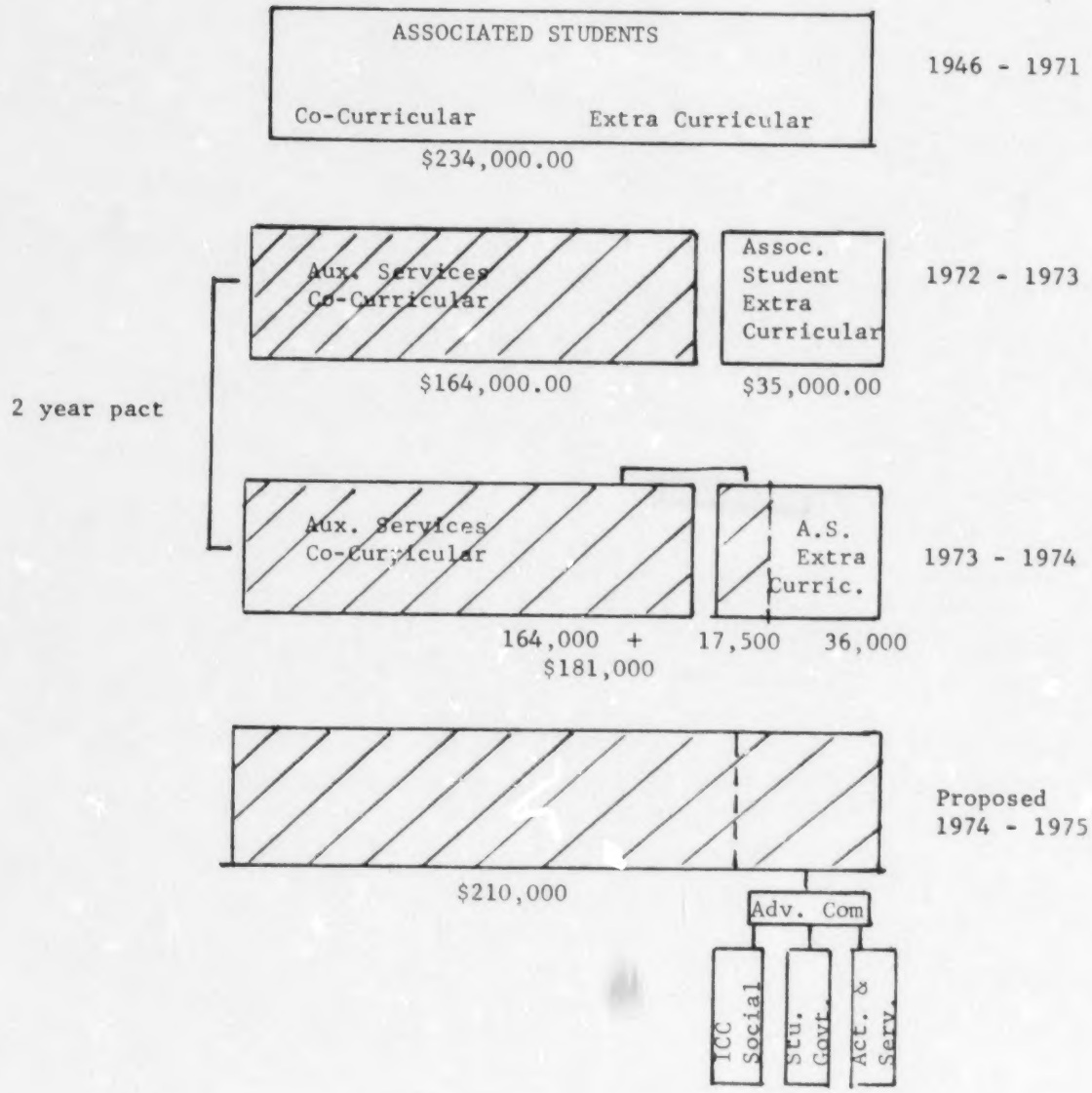
The Advisory Committee shall elect its own chairperson and other offices as needed, and shall determine its own procedures of operation except as specified herein.

APPENDIX H


ECC STUDENT ACTIVITIES PROGRAMS & SERVICES
STUDENT AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMM.
6 Students
3 Fac.
3 Adm.
STUDENT ACTIVITIES OFFICE
PROGRAMS
INTER-CLUB COUNCIL
CLUBS
STUDENT SENATE
DIVISION COUNCILS

APPENDIX I

FUNDING THROUGH AUXILIARY SERVICES FUND



APPENDIX J

REFERENCES

1. California Legislature. Report of the Joint Committee on the Master Plan for High Education, (Format). Sacramento, California: State of California Legislature, Sept., 1973.

2. Deegan, William L. Students and Governance: Where Are We Where Are We Going? Sacramento, Ca.: CJCA Manuscript, 1971.

3. El Camino College Catalog, 1973-74. Via Torrance, California: El Camino Community College District.

4. Henning, Richard C. Student Governance in Community Colleges. Address at Conference of California Community College Administrators Association.: Lake Tahoe, Ca., Spring, 1973.

5. Klopf, Gordon. College Student Government. New York: Harper and Bros., 1960.

6. Mather, Leonard S. The Legal Status of the Student Body Organization in Public High Schools and Junior Colleges. Unpublished Ed. D. Dissertation, University of Southern California, 1970.

7. O'Banion, Terry. New Directions in Community College Student Personnel Programs. Washington, D.C.: American College Personnel Association, 1971.

8. O'Banion, Terry and Thurston, Alice. Student Development Programs in the Community Junior College. New Jersey: Prentice-Hall, 1972.

9. Stroup, Herbert. Toward A Philosophy of Organized Student Activities. Minnesota: University of Minnesota Press, 1964.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIF.
LOS ANGELES

DEC 13 1974

CLEARINGHOUSE FOR
JUNIOR COLLEGE
INFORMATION